

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 MMO-01

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /072 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:JEBURGESS:ML

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EUR/NE - MR. ACHILLES

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----- 121135

P R 032127Z DEC 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

SECDEF

CNO

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: MILI, OGEN, EAIR, UK, AS, SF

SUBJECT: COMMERCIAL AIR TRANSIT OF DIEGO GARCIA

1. DEPT HAS RECEIVED COPY OF A LETTER FROM WASHINGTON-BASED US REPRESENTATIVE OF AUSTRALIAN AIRCRAFT SALES (NSW) PTY. LTD, OF SYDNEY, WHICH, INTER ALIA, REQUESTS USE OF DIEGO GARCIA AS REFUELING STOP FOR TWO FOKKER F-27 AIRCRAFT TO BE DELIVERED TO A SOUTH AFRICAN CONCERN. FIRM DESIRES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FIRST FLIGHT TO TRANSIT DIEGO GARCIA ON 8 DECEMBER. ORIGI-

NAL OF THIS REQUEST DELIVERED TO BRITISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON.

2. LETTER FURTHER STATES QUOTE WRITTEN APPLICATION FOR ...
FLIGHT CLEARANCES (WAS FILED WITH) AIR ATTACHE OF US EM-
BASSY CANBERRA UNDER COVER OF 24 NOVEMBER UNQUOTE.

3. DEPT HAS VERBALLY ADVISED MILLINGTON, BRITISH EMBASSY,
THAT US CANNOT SUPPORT APPROVAL OF THIS REQUEST FOR TWO
BASIC REASONS:

A. PRECEDENTIAL ASPECT OF CIVIL USE OF DIEGO GARCIA, WHICH
COULD LEAD TO CLAIMS FOR SIMILAR USE BY OTHER-NATION FIRMS
UNDER THE CHICAGO CONVENTION.

B. FLIGHT SAFETY AND AIR-RESCUE CONSIDERATIONS. INSUR-
ANCE AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS OF PERTINENT DOD
DIRECTIVES WERE ALSO DISCUSSED, AS WERE LOGISTIC ASPECTS.
FYI, ONLY FUEL WAS REQUESTED. END FYI.

4. FOR LONDON: REQUEST YOU CONSULT WITH FCO STRESSING
USG OPPOSITION TO THIS REQUEST, AND SEEK TO OBTAIN HMG
REJECTION OF THIS APPLICATION.

5. FOR CANBERRA: ALL GOA INQUIRIES ON THE USE OF DIEGO
GARCIA AS COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT TRANSIT POINT SHOULD BE
REFERRED TO DEPT, INFO LONDON. COMMERCIAL FIRMS SHOULD
BE REFERRED TO UK AS SOVEREIGN POWER, AND SHOULD BE RE-
PORTED TO DEPT AND SECDEF. FYI: PRELIMINARY CHECK HAS
FAILED TO LOCATE INFO ON PURPORTED NOV 24 APPROACH TO DAO.
END FYI. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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